

FACT SHEET



Ace Services Superfund Site Colby, Kansas

December 1998

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has completed a study of remedial cleanup alternatives. The cleanup alternatives deal with the contaminated buildings and groundwater on the Ace Services site, 345 Convesse Avenue, Colby, Kansas. EPA's Proposed Plan summarizes the remedial cleanup alternatives. The alternatives are evaluated in EPA's Feasibility Study (FS). The FS includes the basis for EPA's preferred alternative.

Public Meeting Announcement

EPA will hold a public meeting 7 p.m., Wednesday, December 16, 1998 at the Colby Community Building, 285 East Fifth Street, Colby, Kansas.

The purpose of the meeting is to take written and oral comments on the Proposed Plan that deals with the clean up of the contaminated groundwater and the contaminated buildings on the Ace Services site. The 30-day comment period opens December 4, 1998 and closes January 4, 1999. You may submit comments to EPA through January 4, 1999.

Following the public comment period, EPA will decide how the contaminated buildings and groundwater will be addressed. The decision will be published in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will also include a responsiveness summary. The responsiveness summary is the agency's response to comments received during the public comment period.

Site Background

The 2 ½ -acre Ace Services site was a former chrome plating facility where chrome plating was applied to farm implement parts. The facility operated from 1954 to 1990. Chrome plating wastewater generated during operations was discharged directly to the ground surface immediately west of the unnamed tributary to Prairie Dog Creek. The site currently includes two buildings, a former plating shop and a former machine shop, an inactive groundwater recovery well, and an area of soil and concrete rubble that was placed to fill the former lagoon.

In the mid-1970s, concrete retention vats were installed at the facility by Ace Services. An evaporation lagoon was built immediately adjacent to the facility to receive discharged wastewater. The evaporation lagoon was not lined. Chromium contaminated

wastewater leaking from the retention vats and seeping from the unlined lagoon contaminated the soil, and ultimately the groundwater.

The Ace Services site was proposed for EPA's National Priorities List (NPL) in 1995. The NPL is EPA's list of Superfund sites. These sites are the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. Superfund is the federal program that locates, investigates and cleans up hazardous waste sites throughout the country. Superfund cleanup is paid for either by parties responsible for contamination or by the Superfund Trust Fund.

EPA's Preferred Alternative

EPA evaluated and developed several alternatives during the feasibility study (FS) to clean up the groundwater and buildings on the site. All of the alternatives are described in detail in the Proposed Plan.

Groundwater

The EPA's preferred alternative for the groundwater is to extract the contaminated groundwater using three extraction wells to actively restore the aquifer to cleanup goals. This alternative includes using extraction wells, treating the contaminated water and discharging the treated groundwater to the Prairie Dog Creek tributary. This preferred alternative will cost about \$3.7 million dollars to implement.

Buildings

The EPA's preferred alternative for the buildings involves decontaminating the plating shop and machine shop buildings. This would be done by cleaning the concrete floor surfaces and dusting, vacuuming and

wiping all of the interior surfaces of the buildings. After all contamination has been removed the interior surfaces will be grit-blasted. The surfaces will then be dusted, vacuumed and wiped again. Confirmation sampling will be done to determine whether the action levels have been met for the buildings. This alternative will cost about \$270,000 to implement.

Additional Information

EPA encourages community members to comment on the Proposed Plan for the Ace Services site and the accompanying documents. The documents are in the Administrative Record File (a single file of all documents about the remedial action). The Administrative Record File is available for public review at the following information repositories, during normal business hours:

Pioneer Memorial Library	EPA Region 7 Docket Room
375 West 4 th Street	726 Minnesota Ave.
Colby, Kansas	Kansas City, Kansas

Comments can be submitted orally or in writing. Comments can be made at the public meeting, or written comments (postmarked by January 4, 1999) to:

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